

Year 6/7 Transition 2020: Frequently Asked Questions

1) What school uniform do we need to purchase and where do we buy it from?	<p>Up to date school uniform requirements with details of where to buy this may be found on the school website: https://www.coombedean.co.uk/the-school/uniform/</p> <p>Please note there has been a change to the school skirt requirements to be worn from September 2020.</p> <p>At the present time we do not know what the situation will be in September regarding students returning in uniform. We will keep you updated as the situation changes.</p>
2) What are the timings of the school day?	<p>All students are expected to be waiting at their tutor room when the bell rings at 8:40 ready for a prompt start. There is a warning bell at 8:30 which reminds students to start making their way to their tutor room.</p> <p>There is also a bell five minutes before the end of break and lunch to help students with their time keeping.</p> <p>The school day ends at 3:00pm.</p> <p>https://www.coombedean.co.uk/the-school/organisation/</p>
3) What equipment do we need for September?	<p>Students will be provided with exercise books by their class teachers and there will mostly be kept in their classrooms.</p> <p>All students must bring the following in a pencil case: 2 blue/black pens 1 purple pen 1 pencil 1 30cm ruler 1 pencil sharpener 1 rubber 1 Protractor Casio FX83 scientific calculator</p> <p>We would also recommend: 1 glue stick 1 pair of scissors 1 set of basic colouring pencils</p> <p>Students should keep all of their equipment in a bag. Backpacks are the most practical, which they will keep with them throughout the school day. We would recommend a bag large enough to fit their PE kit in on</p>

	<p>days when this is needed, as this will help them to keep everything together.</p>
<p>4) Will Year 7 be given any transition support as they are missing out on their induction day?</p>	<p>We are still finalising the plan for exactly how transition will be supported this year. As we are still not sure exactly what school will be like this September, we are not yet able to confirm exactly what will happen but there will be familiarisation activities for new students.</p> <p>Prior to September, you will receive links to a virtual tour of the school and messages from tutors, along with further written information. We also plan for you to have the opportunity to meet with your tutor and your new tutor group using Microsoft Teams.</p> <p>We are currently working on creating some transition activity packs for you to complete ready for you to bring to school in September. We would encourage all students to try to complete these activities to the best of their ability and all who do will start the year with 10 positive points!</p> <p>We will keep you updated as further information becomes available.</p>
<p>5) What public transport is available to travel to school and what is the cost?</p>	<p>At the present time all school bus routes have been suspended and we are awaiting confirmation of the details of routes planned for the new academic year. We will let you know as soon as we have more details.</p>
<p>6) What options are available at lunchtime? How do we pay and how much does it cost?</p>	<p>There are many different food options available for students to buy at lunchtime. The menu is available weekly here: https://www.coombedean.co.uk/care-and-support/catering/</p> <p>There is always a main meal option, with an expected price in September of at £2.00 or £2.40 with a pudding. As soon as these prices are confirmed we will update you.</p> <p>There is a meal deal package which is a basic sandwich (ham or cheese), a 500ml bottle of water or small 300ml bottle of fruit flavoured drink and either a piece of fruit, cookie or yoghurt. This is sold for the same price as the main meal with pudding.</p> <p>They are also always a range of salads and sandwiches available along with drinks, cookies, cakes and donuts.</p> <p>Students will pay for this using “Parent Pay” which will require you to put money onto their account electronically which may be used to buy food.</p>

	<p>If you are eligible for free school meals you will be given a daily allocation of money. If this is not spent on one day any remaining balance will disappear and their account will be re-set the next day.</p>
<p>7) What is Parent Pay and how does it work?</p>	<p>Parent Pay is our electronic payment system. You will use this system to pay for everything at school including school dinners, trips and items from the school shop.</p> <p>You will be able to add credit to your account online for your child to spend in school either using a finger print or a PIN number. You should already have received further information about this system and consent forms to allow finger prints to be taken.</p> <p>Due to the COVID-19 situation we realise that arrangements for payments may need to be different to ensure good hygiene. We are looking at ways that we are able to implement this, hopefully for a short period of time, and will update you when we have further information.</p>
<p>8) Will I be in a tutor group with my friends?</p>	<p>We try to put students with at least one other person that they have requested to be with. Students who have listed several friends that they would like to be with may find that they are not placed in a tutor group with all of their friends. If you are not with your friend in your tutor group you may still find you are in other lessons with them as lessons are not always taught in tutor groups.</p> <p>There are many students who come to us without knowing anyone and we will try to place several of these in tutor groups together. We are very experienced in helping students connect with other like-minded people and are confident that every student will find the right friendship group for them.</p>
<p>9) What is the role of a tutor and when will I find out who this is.</p>	<p>The tutor will be your first point of contact for parents/carers and their children. Your tutor will be the person who will learn the most about your child as they will be with them throughout their time at Coombe Dean. The best way to make contact with tutors is through email, which will be provided to you when you find out who your tutor is going to be. All staff emails follow the same pattern: Mr J Bloggs would be jbloggs@coombedeans.co.uk</p>

	We are still finalising your tutor groups but you will find out who you will be with within the next few weeks.
10) What should I do if my child is too unwell to attend school?	If your child is going to be absent due to illness, we request that you call the absence line on 01752 504152 before 9.00am, leaving your child's name, tutor group and reason for absence. We ask that you phone each day that your child will be absent from school. If no reason for absence has been provided by 9.00am, you will receive a telephone call/ text indicating that your child has not arrived for school.
11) What should I do if my child is unable to attend school for another reason?	<p>We are unable to authorise holiday requests except in exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>Where possible we request that medical appointments are made outside of school hours. If appointments are unavoidable please provide us with a copy of any appointment cards or letters.</p> <p>If your child requires a period of absence from school, please collect or ask your child to collect an Absence Request Form from Reception to complete and return.</p>